



# ***DISASTER NEWS***

***Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses***

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## ***Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses***

**Sacramento, CA** - Small, non-farm businesses in the following Texas counties may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues to farmers and ranchers caused by adverse weather conditions, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

Small businesses in the following primary and neighboring counties may apply for working capital loans to offset economic losses that are attributable to the impact of the following weather conditions and incident dates in each disaster:

<b>EIDL</b>	<b>Primary Counties</b>	<b>Neighboring Counties</b>	<b>Incident Type</b>	<b>Incident Date</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
10508	Bosque, Johnson & McLennan	Bell, Coryell, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Hamilton, Hill, Hood, Limestone, Parker, Somervell & Tarrant	Drought	1/1/06 & cont.	2/15/07
10509	Terrell	Brewster, Crockett, Pecos & Val Verde	Drought & High Winds	1/1/06 & cont.	2/15/07
10510	Collin	Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt & Rockwall	Tornado	5/9/06	2/20/07
10511	Kleberg	Brooks, Jim Wells, Kenedy & Nueces	Drought, Excessive Temperatures & High Winds	1/1/06 & cont.	2/20/07
10512	McLennan	Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Hill & Limestone	Excessive Rain, Hail, High Winds & Tornado	5/6/06	2/20/07

Small businesses may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$1.5 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. "Eligibility for these loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship," Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Secretary Mike Johanns declared these disasters at the request of Governor Rick Perry.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary's declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

For information and application forms, call toll-free (800) 659-2955, or visit SBA's website at [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Mail completed applications to the U. S. Small Business Administration at 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

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